

A

# REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

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Saturday, May 14. 1709.

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MY last was an Application of what I have long been talking of, and is directed to the Incorrigible among the *Jacobites*, if any such there be— Methinks it should be impossible, after this War is at an End, that there should be any more *Jacobites*, I mean, openly, profetly so— I have nothing to do in all my Discourse with the Principle of *Jacobitism*, as such, nor would I disturb or disrespect any Man for his firm Adherence to his Principle, let it be what it will. But I am speaking of *Jacobitism* run to Seed, grown up to Poyson and Infection, exerted in Politicks, and confederated in Power, carry'd on to a suited Malignity, and grown contagious— *Jacobitism*, as it has been practised in the Field, in Invasion, Assassination, in Parties,

in Factions, in the Press, in the Pulpit, dividing us, distracting us, and obliging us to keep our Eyes open, and the Government always waking and apprehensive of secret Treason, open Rebellion, Foreign Invasion, and the like.

Of this Sort of *Jacobitism*, I must say again, it must be destroy'd, it must be suppressed. No Peace must be or can be made with France; till the French King is brought to abandon and forsake it— No Peace can be expected at home, till all possible Methods are taken to root it out; Clemency and Lenity have been practised 20 Years, and the QUEEN has finisht'd that Clemency by the most compleat Act of Mercy possible, Viz. A general Pardon of all that is past.

I cannot think, I do amiss to tell the Gentlemen, that after this they can ask no Favour, nor after this can any Favour be shew'd them; and this brings me back to the four Heads of which I promis'd to discourse, in *Review*, N° 13. of this Volume.

1. Of what Concern securing the Peace of Britain is to the rest of the Confederacy?
2. Of what Concern crushing Jacobitism is to the securing the Peace of Britain?
3. What Certainty there is of your being able to bring France to comply?
4. The Necessity of carrying on the War till we do.

1. Of what Concern securing the Peace of Britain is to the rest of the Confederacy?

It has been suggested abroad, it seems, and at home too, That the Confederacy is not concern'd in our crushing Malecontents at home, and that the pressing the carrying on a War abroad, till we bring down a Party-Strife at home, is unreasonable, unjust to the Confederates, and is no Branch of the Treaty, on which the present grand Alliance was founded— But it were well worth our Allies while to consider a little the present State of *Jacobitism* in this Nation— And it speaking to our Allies in such a Paper as this, which they may never see, may be thought impertinent, yet it may be useful to speak it to some People at home, who seem to object against the general Argument of pushing the War yet a little farther on— That they may be fully satisfy'd of the Reasonableness, and indeed Necessity of it.

In order therefore to state it right, I am not going to shew you of what Concern suppressing *Jacobitism* IS TO US— Every Man that is not blind to the Interest of his own Country must know that— Every Man must know, let the Peace be what it will abroad, WE shall have no Peace, if *Jacobitism* be not suppress'd— If you have a Pretender in View, and a Party to espouse him at home, how will you disband your Forces? — If you expect him every Day to invade you, how will you lay up your Fleet? And if we must keep an Army in Pay, and a Fleet always at

Sea, where's our Peace? — But this relates to our selves— I shall keep to my Text, and shall meet with that Part again in its Course; I am now to speak to our Confederates, and must therefore examine *Jacobitism*, as it respects the whole Alliance, and the Interest of Europe in general.

1. *Jacobitism* is a Branch of *French Power*— As it is upheld by *French Power*, so in its Turn, and in Proportion to its Capacity, it upholds *French Power*, and does its Parts in the general Attempt of enslaving Europe.

2. If *Jacobitism*, by whatsoever Fate, should recover its own Power, it will to its utmost, endeavour the restoring the *French Exorbitance*— And both these prove it to be equally the just Concern of the whole Confederacy to suppress one as the other.

To prove, that *Jacobitism* is a Branch of *French Power*, it would be needful to enter into the History of the Rise and Original of *French Power* and of *Jacobitism* in the World; and this I shall do very concisely— But before I proceed, I must explain my Terms, and tell you, what I mean by *French Power*, and what by *Jacobitism*.

1. By *French Power*, I do not mean the Kingdom of France, or the King of France, abstractly as a Kingdom, or as a King ruling that Kingdom; but I mean, *France exorbitantly great*, by the ambitious Invasion the present King of *France* has made upon the Liberties and Governments of the rest of the Powers of Europe, whereby he is manifestly become a Terror to his Neighbours, and has openly discover'd his Designs of usurping the universal Government of Christendom, and the Reduction of all the present Powers of Europe into a Subjection to him.

2. By *Jacobitism*, I do not mean the bare Principle or Opinion which some People espouse; and some perhaps conscientiously, of their indispensable Duty and Allegiance, remaining due to the Person of K. James, and his direct Line, &c. and that the Parliament have no Power to transpose their Alte-

Allegiance, or to limit the Succession of the Crown, &c. These, as such, I have nothing to do with in this Discourse; but by Jacobitism, I mean the Spirit of Tyranny and Oppression, which reign'd in the Persons of our two Princes before the Revolution, and which led them into all the Extravagancies, Irregularities, and arbitrary Practices, for which this free Nation depos'd them, setting the Law in its just Supremacy, over both the Governed and Governing, and declaring absurd and illegal the Novelties in Government call'd *Divine Right, Passive-Obedience, Absolute Power, and Non-Resistance.*

This is what I call French Power, and this Jacobitism; and thus consider'd, they began together, and must fall together; and the one is not effectually suppress'd, if the other be left standing. — And if I prove this, then it must follow, that it is the Interest of all our Confederates to see to the suppressing them both, and to carry on the War till it be.

First, I say, they began together. — And here I must take the Freedom with my own Country to acknowledge, tho' it be recording a sad Scandal upon us, That England has been the only Foundation and original Cause of the Exorbitant Power of France. I hope, we have aton'd dearly for it in the double Share we have had, in both the Charge and Hazard of pulling it down again. — It is indeed a hard Charge, but I dare undertake to make it out in but too many Articles; however I avoid the tedious Recital of Particulars, and come first to this General.

Had not England sat still, and supinely doz'd under the false and sickening Beams of a destructive Peace. — France could never have risen up to that formidable Greatness. — Had our Eyes been open to the true Interest of Europe, we had oppos'd him early, and never suffer'd him to overrun Holland, strip Spain of her strongest Frontiers, encroach upon the Empire, ruin the Duke of Lorrain, and subject the Duke of Savoy. — Had we seen the fatal Consequences of French Power upon the Liberties of Europe, we should never have suffer'd

them to possess the Provinces of Artois, Hainault, Luxemburgh, and all the French Part of Flanders and Brabant; we should never have seen him seize the second Time the Franche-Come, secure all Alsace, take Strasburgh upon the Rhine, and Casal upon the Po both in a Day, and build innumerable Fortifications upon the Saar and the Rhine, at the same Time laying the Foundation of the most formidable Naval Strength in the World.

This has partly been the Effect of our being passive in the Increase of French Greatness; and had this been all, we had been most unaccountably to blame. — And had indeed ow'd Europe all that we have extraordinarily done since this War, to the pulling down and demolishing this Fabrick of French Tyranny. But we did not end here. — But diligently and laboriously set our Hands to the vile Drudgery, and assisted in raising this Monster, and mid-wifing him into the World, out of the Womb of Ambition and French Tyranny; and this by almost every Step, that it was possible for us to take: Such as these,

1. By sacrificing English Protestant Blood to assist and carry on Popish Exorbitance, lending British Protestant Troops to help ravage Protestant Princes and States, and to help up French Power to trample upon and triumph over them. Thus the English and Scots Regiments storm'd Maastricht, filling the Breaches with the Bodies of Dutch Protestants, and with near 2000 of their own. — The English and Scots Regiments sent by King Charles II. in his abundant Zeal for the Protestant Religion, assisted the French to over-run the States of Holland in the Year 1672; assisted the French in taking Burgundy from the Spaniards, and Alsace from the Empire; and particularly sav'd the whole French Army, when the Mareschal De Turenne was kill'd, and Monsieur De Loige retreated with the Army from the Imperialists.

2. By arbitrating the Peace of Nimeguen, as much as possible in Favour of France, and suffering all the vast Acquisitions of that Monarch to be united to France; the Spanish Monarchy, the Empire, and all his neighbouring

houring Princes suffering infinite Amputations, Dis-Membrings, and to aggrandize this Conqueror.

I purposely omit our assisting him in the Encrease of our Naval Force, selling *Dunkirk* to him, and permitting him to build Moles, Harbours, and infinite Fortifications round his vast Empire, such as *Saar-Louis*, *Fort Louis*, *Huninghen*, *Casal*, *Landau*, *Strasburgb*, *Dunkirk*, *Tboulon*, *Port Louis*, *Brest*, *Marfelles*, and almost every where else where he had set his Foot, particularly in *Flanders*, where he made weak Places strong, strong Places almost invincible, and surrounded himself on all Sides with a Wall, as of Fire and Brass, the Effect of which has been, that now after 20 Years War, and a 5 Years Series of Victory, we have not yet been able to take one Town, and hardly to set our Foot in his own Country.

I think, these may be sufficient to prove, that *English Sloth*, *English Infatuation*, or if you please, *English Treachery*, rais'd the *French Greatness* in the World.— If any Man ask, what Equivalent *England* had for all this— It is a sad Story to tell, before a Man can make an Answer; our King got— *French Whores* to debauch himself, and assist him in vitiating our Gentry and Clergy; *French Fashions* to degenerate and effeminate our People; *French Trade* to impoverish our Commerce; *French Pension* to enable our King to reign without his Parliament, *that is*, to tyrannize; and *French Councils* to prompt and introduce the same Tyranny at home, which we assisted abroad.

These were the dreadful Returns we obtain'd for the horrid Merchandise of Blood, and the Consequences of this were dispensing with Laws, Persecution of *Dissenters*, Invading of Charters, Suppressing of Liberties, Oppression of Property, with all the Concomitaats of Tyranny, such as Passive Submission, Blind-Obedience, Absolute-Will, and so on to High Commission Courts, taking off Penal Laws, standing Army-Government, and at last *POPERY* and *SLAVERY* hand-in-hand— And THIS is what I call *JACOBITISM*.

Thus they advanc'd hand-in-hand; I Brother help thee Brother; they came together, and they will go together, or stay together; Exorbitant Power in *France* came from *England*, Popish Tyranny in *England* came from *France*, and one is the Branch of the other, both springing from one Root, planted by the Devil, nourish'd from Hell, grafted and inoculated by the degenerate Ambition of a Tyrant, and must be destroy'd, or *EUROPE* can expect no Peace.

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